

Date Mailed August 4, 1998

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Investigation of Telecommunications Utility Price Regulation
Pursuant to §196.196(1)(g), Stats.

05-TI-174

NOTICE OF SECOND TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Technical Conference Date: August 31, 1998 – 1 p.m.	Pecatonica River Conference Room Room B40 Public Service Commission Building 610 North Whitney Way Madison, WI 53705
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Pursuant to § 196.196(1)(g)1., Stats., five years after a telecommunications utility elects to become a price-regulated telecommunications utility or within the time period specified in § 196.196(1)(g)4., Stats., the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) shall hold a hearing to determine whether it is in the public interest to suspend one or more of the provisions of § 196.196(1), Stats., as it applies to a price-regulated telecommunications utility, or to approve an alternative regulatory method for that utility. According to § 196.196(1)(g), Stats., in making a determination, the Commission shall identify: (1) the goals to be achieved; (2) the suspension or method to be approved, and how the decision is expected to help achieve the identified goals; and (3) the criteria to be used to evaluate success of the change.

The Commission issued a Notice of Investigation, Technical Conference, Prehearing Conference, and Assessment of Costs (Initial Notice) on April 23, 1998, initiating this investigation for purposes of performing the five-year review of price regulation pursuant to § 196.196(1)(g), Stats. The Commission's review will include Ameritech Wisconsin (Ameritech) and GTE North Incorporated (GTE North). These two telecommunications utilities are the only utilities electing price regulation under § 196.196(1), Stats.

In conjunction with the Commission's five-year review, § PSC 163.06(1), Wis. Admin. Code, provides that telecommunications utilities with more than 150,000 access lines in use in this state which elect price regulation before December 31, 1997, shall file a report no later than August 1, 1998, on how competition, economic development, consumer choice, quality of life, societal goals, and universal service have changed during the period in which price regulation has been in effect. The report shall, where possible, include quantifiable data by separate services, demographic groups, and geographic areas, and compare measures of the above factors under price regulation to those measures prior to price regulation. Copies of the Ameritech

report can be obtained by contacting Scott Vandersanden, Ameritech, by mail at 316 West Washington Avenue, Room 901, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, or by phone at (608) 252-2800. Copies of the GTE North report can be obtained by contacting Paul Verhoeven, GTE North, by mail at 100 Communications Drive, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590, or by phone at (608) 837-1771.

According to the Initial Notice, Ameritech and GTE shall make presentations to parties and other interested persons regarding the August 1, 1998, reports. Both Ameritech and GTE North will give presentations lasting approximately 30 minutes regarding the impact of price regulation reports. The remaining time will be devoted to follow-up questions. The time devoted to follow-up questions is not intended to provide parties the opportunity for discovery or cross-examination, it is intended as an opportunity for parties to obtain a clear understanding of the impact of price regulation reports.

This is a Type III action under § PSC 4.10(3), Wis. Admin. Code. No unusual circumstances suggesting the likelihood of significant environmental consequences have come to the Commission's attention. Neither an environmental impact statement under § 1.11, Stats., nor an environmental assessment is required.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission will hold a technical conference (presentation) on **August 31, 1998**, at **1 p.m.**, in the Pecatonica River Conference Room (Room B40), at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor entrance (lobby). Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations should contact Richard Teslaw, General Services Assistant, at (608) 267-9766 or Thomas Ferris, the case coordinator, at (608) 266-1124.

Questions regarding this matter should be directed to Thomas Ferris, Audit Manager, Telecommunications Division, at (608) 266-1124.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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